June 14, 2022

Public informational meeting notification

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) is hosting a public informational meeting on June 28, 2022, at 11:00 am PST to present two reports: Watershed-Wide Instream Flow Criteria for the South Fork Eel River and Instream Flow Evaluation: Juvenile Steelhead and Coho Salmon Rearing on Redwood Creek, Humboldt County. The South Fork Eel River is a significant watercourse with high resource value, and one of the largest producers of wild Pacific salmonids in California. The South Fork Eel River, and subsequently Redwood Creek, was selected for development of flow criteria due to its inclusion as a priority stream in the 2014 California Water Action Plan, as well as the need to assure the continued viability of stream-related fish and wildlife resources and ecological functions in the watershed.

The <u>California Water Action Plan</u> was released by former Governor Jerry Brown in January 2014, with the purpose of addressing California's complex water issues. The Department is focused on *Action 4: Protect and Restore Important Ecosystems*, specifically the *Sub-Action: Enhance Water Flows in Stream Systems Statewide*. The Department is developing flow criteria for the priority streams outlined in the California Water Action Plan. The Department has prepared two technical reports that address study components and present flow criteria for the South Fork Eel River watershed, including mainstem and tributary reaches. For additional information on the Department's instream flow efforts and to review the study plan associated with the South Fork Eel River instream flow evaluations, visit the Instream Flow Program's web page at: <u>South Fork Eel River Watershed Studies (Humboldt and Mendocino Counties)</u> (ca.gov)

The public meeting can be accessed on June 28, 2022, at 11:00 am PST here: CDFW
SF Eel River Informational Meeting. Following this meeting both technical reports will be available on the Department's Instream Flow Program web page. For any questions regarding the Department's California Water Action Plan efforts on the South Fork Eel River watershed please email instreamflow@wildlife.ca.gov.

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¹ CDFW (2014). South Fork Eel River watershed assessment. California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Northern Region, Coastal Watershed Planning and Assessment Program, Fortuna Field Office (CDFW), Fortuna, CA.